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The Suffragist

OFFICIAL WEEKLY ORGAN OF
THE NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1917

Drawn by Nina E. Allender

Making the Russian Envoys Feel at Home

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Notes of the Week

The Burdens of Congress

THE House of Representatives is preparing to take a vacation in the form of three-day recesses until the Senate passes the revenue and the food bill, a special dispatch to the *Christian Science Monitor* reports. The House has now disposed of all the main administration war bills, and with the exception of the Rivers and Harbors Bill now being threshed out—in the intervals of the three-day recesses—there are only a few small bills left. These will be disposed of by unanimous consent.

Leaders in the House are said to feel delighted with the amount of work which has been put through this session. They state that the only reason for Congress remaining in session after the Senate acts on the two bills now being debated is the chance of legislative needs arising as a result of various phases of the war.

"The House is now more of a recreation room than a legislative hall. Members feel that having accomplished a great deal, a rest is now in order, so everything which comes up now is taken as easily as possible."

Congress has been putting off the supporters of the federal amendment who urge immediate action with the plea of a war program too heavy to allow consideration even of a question as closely related to national efficiency as woman suffrage. The National Woman's Party has been accused of endangering the country by demanding that Congress give an hour of its precious time to passing the amendment.

Here is a dispassionate and authoritative account of the burdens of Congress at present. Everyone knows the quality of the Rivers and Harbors Bill as a national and a war question.

Suffrage in Hawaii

THE United States Senate is about to consider a bill to give the women of the territory of Hawaii the franchise.

The legislature of Hawaii passed this bill last year, providing for a referendum on the question of woman suffrage in the Island, and asked Congress to make the necessary changes for this in the organic law of the territory. The bill was introduced in the House of Representatives last December for confirmation by Prince Kalanianaole, delegate from Hawaii. Since then nothing has been heard of it.

Hawaiian suffragists have lately petitioned Congress, calling for action on this question, and Congress has had to dig up the bill conveniently forgotten. Senator Shafroth of Colorado is now sponsor for the bill in the Senate. Suffragists will watch with close interest its fate with the Administration that refused to enfranchise Porto Rican women with Porto Rican men and that plays politics with the Susan B. Anthony amendment.

New York State Mayors Favor Federal Amendment

OF 47 mayors at a recent conference of New York state mayors, in Buffalo, New York, 41 voted for a resolution recommending that this government enfranchise women. They urged that the United States should profit by the experience of other governments at war and by granting equal suffrage avail itself of the services of its women as well as of its men in the efficiency of full citizenship.

French Women Demand Suffrage

THE Union Francise Pour le Suffrage des Femmes has sent a delegation to the Chamber of Deputies to demand that the government at once enfranchise French women. They call to the attention of the French parliament the fact that England is enfranchising women in war time. Mme. Marguerite Duand, head of the delegation, said:

"Have the women of our country played a less glorious part in the war than those on the other side of the channel? In every war women have made terrible sacrifices and always they have been in vain, because, having no civil rights worth mentioning, they could not bring about reforms that should follow war.

"We are determined that the conclusion of this struggle shall be different and we believe our deputies must be influenced by the action of British law-makers."

The feeling in France seems to be that national suffrage will come there quietly and without difficulty in the general social and economic adjustment to the new conditions the war has occasioned.

An Irish Suffrage Leader

COUNTESS MARKIEWICZ, who as lieutenant led troops in the Irish Revolution, was captured and sentenced to penal servitude for life, has been released from prison in England by the British government. She was last week welcomed in Dublin by a demonstration of ten thousand people. Countess Markiewicz was not set free at the same time as the other prisoners of war taken in the insurrection and imprisoned in Ireland; and the Irish people were deeply concerned over the fate of this deeply loved leader. Her arrival in Ireland was the dramatic climax of the recent events that mark the new policy England has apparently adopted toward Ireland's fight for freedom.

Countess Markiewicz, before her imprisonment, was one of the leaders of the suffrage movement in Ireland. In the Irish Revolution, as in the Russian, women planned the moves and fought shoulder to shoulder with men in a complete democracy. There can be little doubt that when the government of Ireland is settled, Irishmen, if they have independence or even home rule, will give Irish women political liberty.

Democracy in Austria

EMPEROR CHARLES of Austria-Hungary opened the first session of the Reichsrat since the war began with a speech that indicated democracy as his aim for the country. He showed a determination to alter the constitution of the dual monarchy to make Austria-Hungary a democratic state.

According to a Budapest dispatch, the Emperor seized the opportunity of an appeal made him last week by 100,000 Hungarians, who marched to the office of the Burgomaster in Budapest asking that the Emperor at once enlarge the franchise, to promise that wide suffrage reform will be put through.

Riots in Budapest for Universal Suffrage

TWENTY-FIVE thousand people marched through the streets of Budapest on June 28 demanding of the government universal, secret, and equal suffrage. The police had difficulty in dispersing the mob of men and women that gathered.

The spirit that is forcing democracy into existence in Eastern Europe is the kind of spirit that should rouse the women of this country now in a mass to insist that the Administration enfranchise them.

Progress toward Democracy in Italy

AT a joint meeting of working women and suffragists held recently in Italy strong resolutions were passed looking to the betterment of political and economic conditions of women in that country.

"Having noted the continual increase of women's work in industries, in agriculture, in commercial employments, in Governmental and private offices, in public, in war, and in ammunition service;

"This meeting, having ascertained that the cause of the work-women is strictly connected with that of the workmen with regard to the emancipation of the whole proletariat;

"Acknowledges as a high duty of the party to take an interest in the work-women, either by trying to organize them in syndicates, for the sake of the masculine proletariat also, or by favouring studies and movements around all the vital problems of women's work—collocation, minimum wage, equal pay for equal work, demobilization;

"Declares its claim for all women, without difference of capacity or category, to the right to the political and administrative vote, and to encourage it on every occasion also as complement to the political rights of all workmen."

The Suffragist

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THE SUSAN B. ANTHONY AMENDMENT

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States extending the right of suffrage to women.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article be proposed to the legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three-fourths of the said legislatures, shall be valid as part of said Constitution, namely:

"ARTICLE—SEC. 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

"SEC. 2. Congress shall have power, by appropriate legislation, to enforce the provisions of this article."

THE AMENDMENT IN THE SIXTY-FIFTH CONGRESS

Introduced

In the Senate, on April 4, 1917, by Senators Thompson, Owen, Jones and Shafroth.
In the House, on April 2, 1917 by Representatives Raker, Rankin, Mondell, Keating and Hayden.

Referred

In the Senate, to the Committee on Woman Suffrage.
In the House, to the Judiciary Committee.

Present Status

In the Senate

Before the Committee on Woman Suffrage.

In the House

Before the Judiciary Committee.

HISTORY OF THE AMENDMENT

Drafted

In its present form, by Susan B. Anthony in 1875.

First Introduced

January 10, 1878, by Hon. A. A. Sargent, in the Senate.

Reported from Committee

In the Senate

1878, Adverse majority.
1879, Favorable minority.
1882, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1884, Favorable majority, adverse minority
1886, Favorable majority.
1890, Favorable majority.
1892, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1896, Adverse majority.
1913, Favorable majority.
1914, Favorable majority.
1916, Favorable majority.

In the House

1883, Favorable majority.
1884, Adverse majority, favorable minority.
1886, Favorable minority.
1890, Favorable majority.
1894, Adverse majority.
1914, Without recommendation.
1916. Without recommendation.

Voted Upon

In the Senate

January 25, 1887. Yeas 16, nays 34. Absent 26 (of whom 4 were announced as for and 2 against).
March 19, 1914. Yeas 35, nays 34, failing by 11 of the necessary two-thirds vote.

In the House

January 12, 1915. Yeas 174, nays 204, failing by 78 of the necessary two-thirds vote.

Our Democratic Administration

SIX American women are now in prison for holding at the door of the White House banners demanding freedom for women.

One of the banners they were arrested for holding read, "We are interested in the United States, politically speaking, in nothing but human liberty." It is a quotation from President Wilson's book, "The New Freedom."

On a second banner was written, "How long must women wait for liberty?" A third bore Susan B. Anthony's noble words, "We press our demand for the ballot at this time in no narrow, captious or selfish spirit, but from purest patriotism, for the highest good of every citizen, for the safety of the republic, and as a glorious example to the nations of the earth."

The other three women who were arrested and sentenced to prison carried tricolor flags of purple, white, and gold.

For this offense they were convicted, with heavy warnings against their unpatriotic, almost treasonable behavior. Not a word of reproval was breathed by the court against the President and members of Congress, who deliberately deny justice to American citizens.

And such an incident can happen at a time when the Administration is forcibly drafting into the army millions of American men, whose lives are to be offered up in Europe to "make the world safe for Democracy." Men are to die for Democracy, women are to economize on their children's food for Democracy, mothers are to urge their young sons to go to war for Democracy; but President Wilson and the Congress of the United States will not give one hour's time for a vote to establish democracy in our own country.

It is unpatriotic, we are told, to complain of injustice now. We believe that it is unpatriotic not to complain. We have no right to allow our representatives to act basely—to preach freedom abroad, and deny freedom at home. It is never unpatriotic to demand justice. It is unpatriotic to deny justice.

The government has the situation in its own hands and is responsible for it. Any difficulty created for members of the Administration by the appeals of women for political freedom, they can immediately overcome by granting freedom; and the patriotic women of the United States will not rest until they have done so.

The Young Are at the Gates

By Lavinia Dock

A Statement from a Picket

By Katherine Morey

WHEN I arrived in Washington on receipt of an urgent telegram from Miss Alice Paul, I found a tense situation. Two women had the day before greeted the Russian Mission at the gates of the White House with the now famous "Russian banner." A mob had torn it down, and that incident sent the story of the banner with its inscription all over the country and to the capitals of Europe as well.

On Tuesday morning Miss Lucy Burns and I carried a similar banner over to the lower White House gate. But before we had it fairly set up, a few boys destroyed it, the police looking placidly on. Other banners were at once brought us from our headquarters. I held one bearing the sensible motto, "Democracy should begin at home."

A great crowd began to surge up and down the street. But we stood motionless.

While I was at lunch at headquarters, which is just across the way from the White House, I heard a great roar; and running over toward the White House gate saw that the mob, which had got entirely out of hand, had charged upon our pickets, and torn their banners into shreds. The police, alarmed, then warded off the mob and protected the pickets.

That evening the Chief of Police telephoned us we could not again hold any banners of any kind before the White House. We were amazed. We had held banners there in perfect peace for five months and had trouble on this one occasion only because the police had encouraged the crowd to think they could destroy banners with impunity.

We decided that we must continue to hold our protesting banners which we know to be perfectly lawful.

ON Friday morning Miss Burns and I, about to start for the White House, saw rows of policemen before our gates and all the way up and down the street. We were astonished; but not so astonished as the police, when half an hour later they looked toward the White House and saw Miss Burns and me stationed before the gate holding a great banner between us.

After a minute White House guards came over to us and demanded that we give up our banner. We refused, and were arrested; that is, we were taken in a private car to the office of the Chief of Police and dismissed on our bond to appear when summoned.

Police headquarters has since informed pressmen that we will not be summoned, if nothing else occurs. Indeed it would be difficult to make a case against us. "Peaceful picketing" is permitted by "Act of Congress." While the suffrage pickets are being tried in the Courts of the District of Columbia, two labor pickets are being maintained against business houses by the trade unionists of the District, protected in their course by the Clayton Act which has legalized picketing. The suffragists were not arrested for picketing, but for "obstructing traffic," though they have maintained their positions for five months unmolested. The banner we carried read, "We will fight for the thing we hold nearest our heart—for Democracy—the right of those who submit to authority to have a voice in their government." It is a quotation from one of President Wilson's speeches.

IF anyone says to me: "Why the picketing for suffrage?" I should say in reply, "Why the fearless spirit of youth? Why does it exist and make itself manifest?"

Is it not really that our whole social world would be likely to harden and toughen into a dreary mass of conventional negations and forbiddances—into hopeless layers of conformity and caste, did not the irrepressible energy and animation of youth, when joined to the clear-eyed sham-hating intelligence of the young, break up the dull masses and set a new pace for laggards to follow?

What is this potent spirit of youth? Is it not the spirit of revolt, of rebellion against senseless and useless and deadening things? Most of all, against injustice, which is of all stupid things the stupidest?

Such thoughts come to one in looking over the field of the suffrage campaign and watching the pickets at the White House and at the Capitol, where sit the men who complacently enjoy the rights they deny to the women at their gates. Surely, nothing but the creeping paralysis of mental old age can account for the phenomenon of American men, law-makers, officials, administrators and guardians of the peace, who can see nothing in the intrepid young pickets with their banners, asking for bare justice, but common obstructors of traffic, naggers, —nuisances that are to be abolished by passing new, stupid laws forbidding and repressing, to add to the old junk heap of laws which forbid and repress? Can it be possible that any brain cells not totally crystallized could imagine that giving a stone instead of bread would answer conclusively the demand of the women who, because they are young, fearless, eager and rebellious are fighting and winning a cause for all women—even for those who are timid, conventional and inert?

A fatal error—a loosing fight. The old stiff minds must give way. The old selfish minds must go. Obstructive reactionaries must move on. The young are at the Gates!

An Arraignment of the Police

By John Reed

Author of "Insurgent Mexico" and "The War in Eastern Europe"

THIS morning's Washington *Post*, which announces the beginning of the trial of the pickets, speaks of the suffrage demonstrators as women "who think they are proving the fitness of women for the ballot by displaying their own contempt for law and order."

It is not, however, the women who are showing their contempt for the law, but the police. It is almost always so in this country. You will remember in Conrad's "Secret Agent," where the old terrorist anarchist, with his pockets full of bombs, bases his hopes of a glorious cataclysm upon America.

"The authorities of the United States," he says in effect, "have themselves no respect for the law, as our authorities have in England. The American police are slowly but surely teaching the people that the law is something which is to be obeyed by the weak and enforced, or broken by the strong. They are making good anarchists of the people."

THERE is a bill which has just been introduced in Congress for the purpose of stopping the picketing. But do the police wait for such a law to be passed? No, they proceed to arrest the women for doing the same thing which they have been doing for six months under police protection, although no new law or ordinance has been promulgated.

What's the charge? The first two or three days of the arrests there was no charge against the pickets—nor could the police manage to dig up any grounds for interfering with the women's activities, except that they didn't want picketing to go on. Now the women are being accused of those two old stand-bys, which have been used in this country to throttle free expression for more than a century—the charges of "inciting to unlawful assembly . . . and riot." It is by this method that when strikers are shot down by militia and gunmen in industrial disputes, the strike-leaders are accused of murder.

MEANWHILE, while this somewhat drab and commonplace violation of the law by the police and the courts is proceeding, it is a ludicrous spectacle to contemplate the government of a great country bent irrestibly upon the mightiest war for democracy the world has ever seen, halting to concentrate all its tremendous energies upon the task of stamping out the legitimate protests of a great body of Americans who are not citizens, who have no voice in their government, and who dare to desire these attributes of free people.

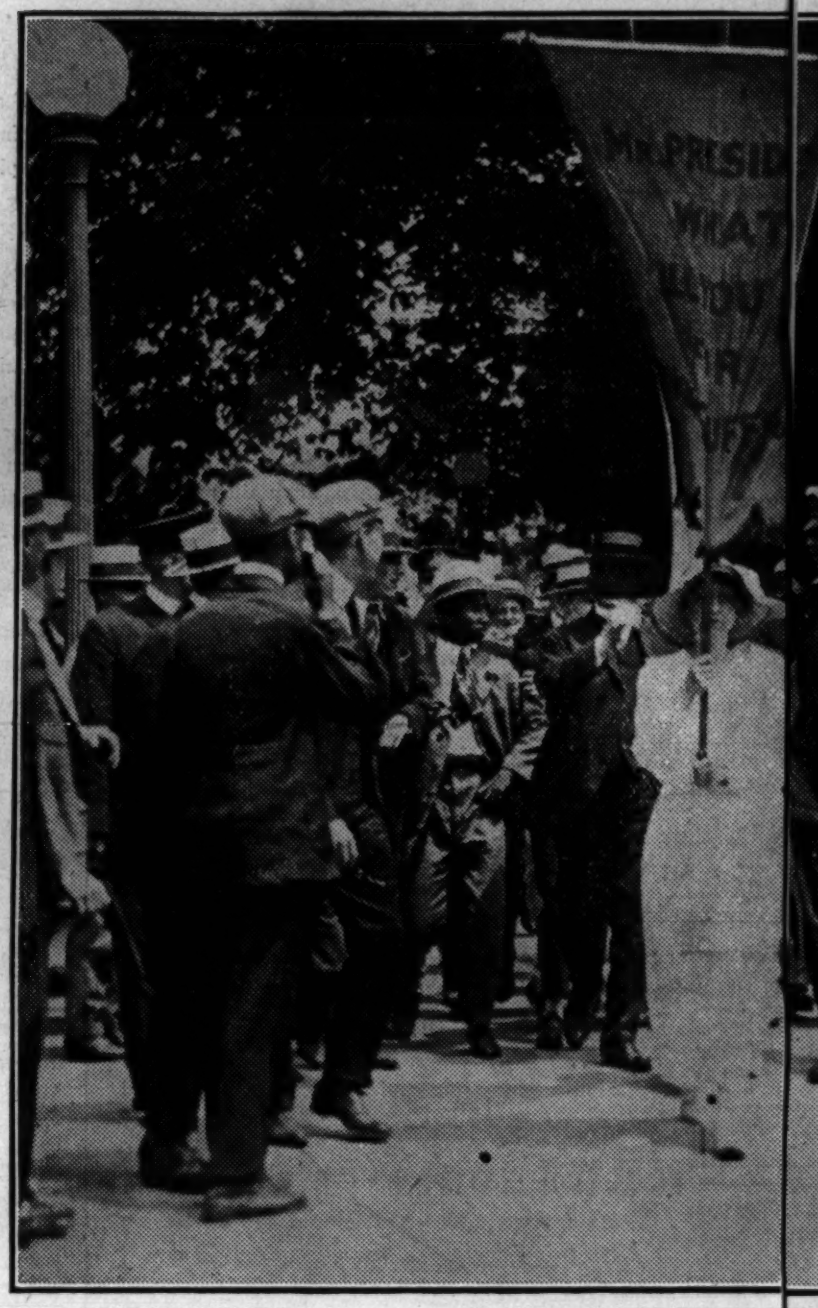
Suffrage Sentinels Arrai

"We press our demand for the ballot at this time in no narrow, captious or selfish spirit, but from purest patriotism, for the highest good of every citizen, for the safety of the republic, and as a glorious example to the nations of the earth."
—*Susan B. Anthony.*

(Inscription on banner seized by the police)

TO THE ENVOYS OF RUSSIA.
President Wilson and Envoy Root are deceiving Russia.
They say:"we are a democracy. Help us win a world war so that democracies may survive."
We, the Women of America, tell you that America is not a democracy.
Twenty million American Women are denied the right to vote.
President Wilson is the chief opponent of their national enfranchisement.
Help us make this nation really free. Tell our government that it must liberate its people before it can claim free Russia as an ally.

Lucy Burns and Katherine Morey Starting Out with the Russian Banner



Mabel Vernon Marching Up P

SIXTEEN women, representing the states of the West, the East and the South, during the past week have been arrested for the peaceful picketing of the White House. Beginning with a riot which was precipitated by the action of the police, the grotesque chapter which this week adds to the fifty-years' battle for suffrage will baffle future students of the movement in this country. From indifference to protection and persecution the District of Columbia police force under the guidance of Major Pullman rang rapid changes.

The only consistent actors in the drama enacted in front of the executive mansion were the members of the Woman's Party. Belittled by police and press and thoughtless passers-by, in the face of a public rendered temporarily hostile by all three, these women maintained and are maintaining their right to impress on a deaf executive and on the men and women of this country day after day the demand of American women confronted by a national cataclysm to a voice in their own government.

The banners bearing the President's fine phrases of democracy, the floating purple and gold flags that flashed so bravely under the White House trees have been repeatedly torn to ribbons, trampled in the dust, seized by the police during the past few days. But the words that were on those banners, the meaning of that tricolor, have been flashed from one side of the country to the other, have been pondered over in free Russia during the past week of conflict for a large ideal. Should every banner of the Woman's Party meet the fate of those repeatedly carried by the sixteen women this week arraigned, those women still feel that every banner destroyed in the National Capital has lifted another banner in California, in Colorado, in Connecticut, or the Dakotas.

THE unvarnished record of the events of the week reads like a tale that might have antedated the struggles of Susan B. Anthony and that first little group of so-called militants.

For nearly five months the banners of the suffrage pickets have lifted their colors in front of the White House. The suffrage sentinels took their places in early January, the answer to the President's latest refusal to sponsor the freedom of the women of this nation. They took their places to ask an indifferent executive the question Inez Milholland had asked for the last time shortly before: "How long must women wait for liberty?" In asking the President, they also asked the nation, and called attention to his silence.

The White House pickets questioned the President through the bitter weather of January and February; women from every state have stood on that line; more than four hundred volunteers have asked for a chance to serve; the pickets saw the beginning of spring and a stormy inauguration day when the chief executive turned his face away from that memorable thousand walking with soaking banners in the driving rain. The heat of summer found the suffrage picket still on guard, with the country plunged in a war they had no voice in bringing upon the nation. They have seen the representatives of the allied nations enter the White House gates, forced always to pass by the "thin line of purple and gold" to remind the thinker that he was in a democracy not yet free. Every foreign mission asking help or cooperation of our nation has been addressed by the suffrage picket.

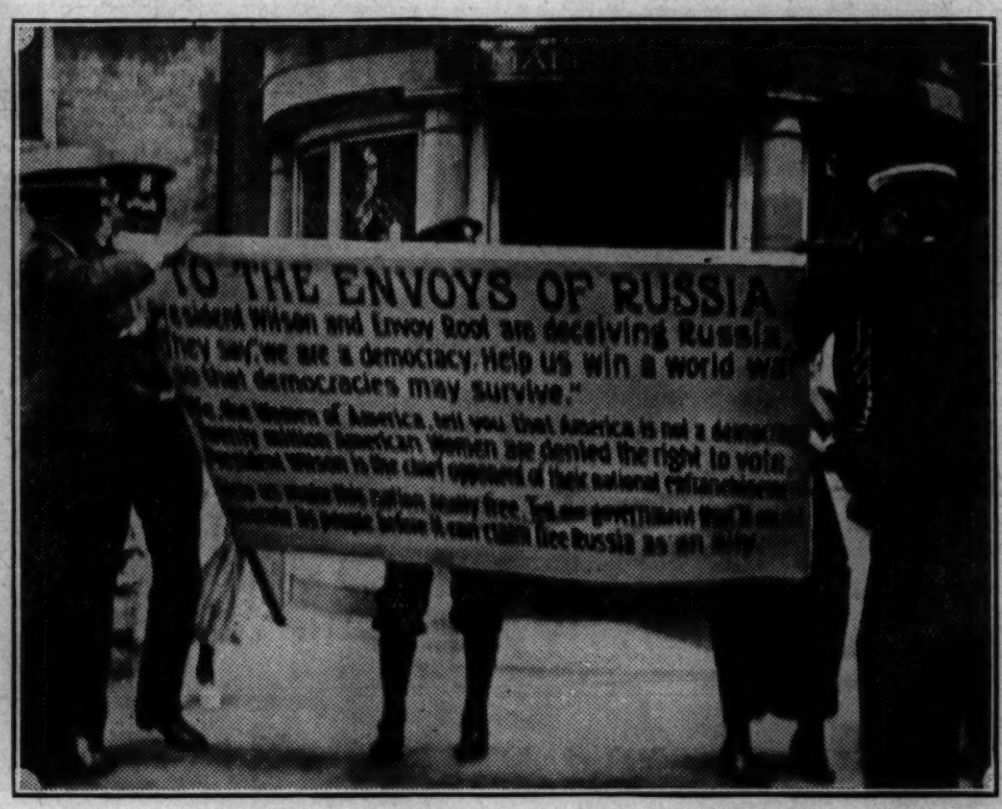
WHEN the Russian Mission visited this nation the action of suffragists was spontaneous. They had protested the appointment of Root to Russia and been ignored. In the only possible way they reminded the Russian Mission and the nations of the insincerity of the President and the dishonesty of Envoy Root in

...ained by the Government

...o Pennsylvania Avenue Through the Mob

Mr. President, you say, " Liberty is the fundamental demand of the human spirit."

(Inscription on banner seized by the police)



Police Tearing the Banner at the Door of Headquarters

boasting of this nation as a democracy. This lettered banner was destroyed on June 20 by a "patriotic" bystander while the police looked on. On the next day the suffragists made another attempt to take out the same banner, which was destroyed by the police officers themselves as the banner was being taken from the national headquarters by Miss Burns and Miss Morey. These two incidents, when the suffragists were first not protected by the police and next attacked by the police, gave the mob element lurking in every crowd their cue. When the suffrage banners, the tricolor and the insistent question addressed to the President which have flanked the Pennsylvania Avenue gates for months were restored to their place on the same day, Wednesday, June 21, they were surrounded by an excited crowd, eager to bait the suffragists. Had not the police given them tacit permission?

The baiting went rather far. The Avenue was crowded with thousands of government clerks, for the most part thoughtless young men. Encouraged by one woman who herself rushed to the attack, the banners of the pickets at the lower gate, manned by Miss Hazel Hunkins of Montana and Mrs. C. D. Heaycox of the District, were torn from them after a plucky struggle on the part of these unprotected young women. The mob then rushed on the upper gate where Miss Lillian Crans and Mrs. Catherine Lowry held the banners. Miss Crans, a fragile young girl, giving up her banner after a struggle, rushed to the near headquarters for another.

The march of four young women from the headquarters, holding high the new purple and gold banners, into the midst of the crowd of bullies to their old stations will not soon be forgotten by the group who saw it. Sneers were silenced and men fell back from the group of white-faced girls. The police finally met the group and conducted two to the upper gate. Reserves were then sent out by the police to disperse the crowd on Pennsylvania Avenue. All afternoon the suffrage picket as usual continued to stand at attention, in an hour deserted by the police and by the crowd. One gentle suffrage picket went on with her war-time knitting in the shelter of her gay tricolor. The picket "protest" was over.

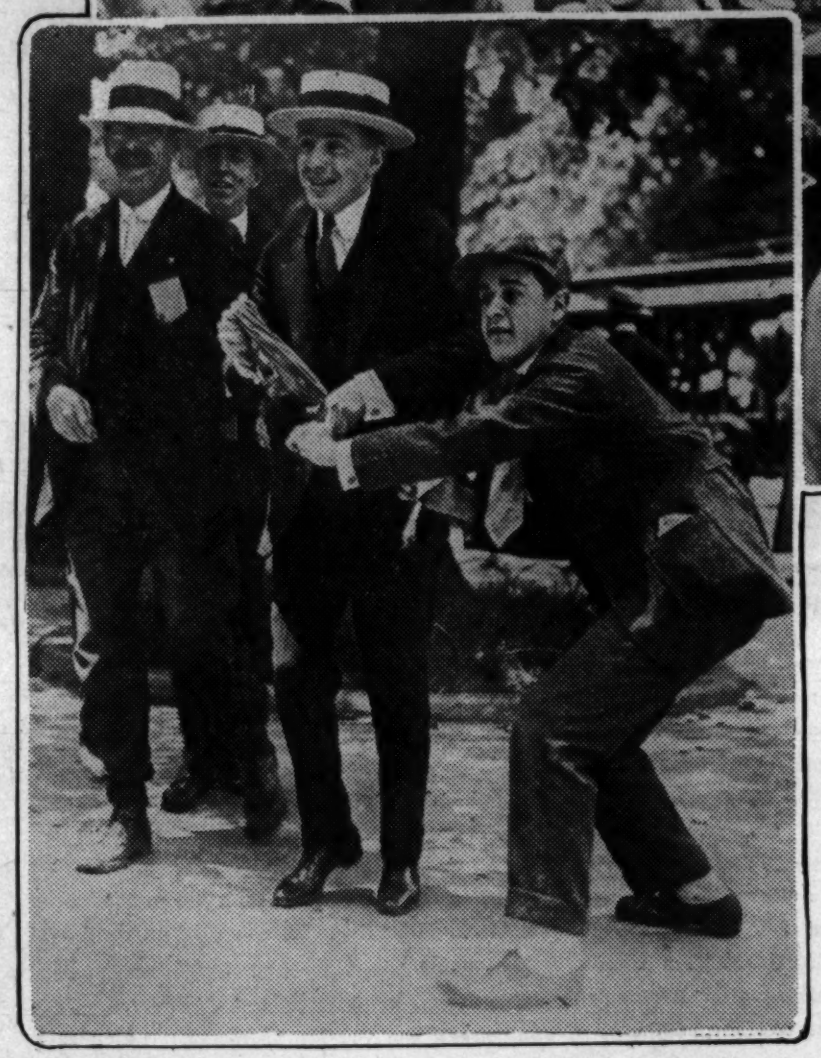
The unexpected aftermath came when Major Pullman, calling personally on Miss Alice Paul, ordered the withdrawal of the suffrage picket from the White House and the Capitol. Miss Paul refused. The picket went out as usual Friday, June 22, when Miss Lucy Burns and Miss Katherine Morey stood at the lower gates of the White House with the familiar banner carrying the President's own words: "We will fight for the things we have always held nearest our hearts, for democracy, for the right of those who submit to authority to have a voice in their own governments."

For seven minutes the police pondered. "We can't arrest the President's message," they said, "they've had it out before." Then they took a chance and obeyed orders. Technically Miss Burns and Miss Morey found they were arrested for "obstructing traffic," though there had been no traffic at the time of their arrest, and Inspector Grant and Major Pullman seemed embarrassed and unable to explain the new ruling.

REFUSING to be bound by the new and arbitrary ruling, refusing to allow their only chance of propaganda in the face of engulfing war excitement to be stopped, the members of the Woman's Party, encouraged by messages from states in all sections of the country, continued to attempt to picket the White House and the Capitol with their suffrage banners.

On Saturday, June 23, Mrs. Lawrence Lewis of Philadelphia, and Miss Gladys Greiner of Balti-

The Mob of Men that Rushed the Banners on June 21



Washington "Patriots" Attacking the Suffrage Sentinels

more, the daughter of the noted engineer of an American mission to Russia, were arrested with their familiar banners in front of the White House. On the same day Miss Mabel Vernon and Miss Virginia Arnold were arrested at the Capitol for displaying the now famous banner addressed to the members of the Russian Mission. The leaders of the Mission were about to address the Congress of the United States for the first time, the new democracy appealing to the old. In the afternoon papers beside their addresses to that body they read in addition the appeal of American women to free Russia and of the arrest of the two young women who asked them to help make America free in fact.

The protest of suffragists for the right to picket with the banners used for so many months continued Monday, June 25. Of the many volunteers twenty women were elected to take out suffrage banners. The slogans on the banners read: "How long must women wait for liberty?"

"Mr. President, you say, 'Liberty is the fundamental demand of the human spirit'."

Susan B. Anthony's famous words were the text of the third banner: "We press our demand for the ballot at this time in no narrow, captious or selfish spirit, but from purest patriotism, for the highest good of every citizen, for the safety of the republic, and as a glorious example to the nations of the earth."

The twelve women arrested for carrying these banners with the colors were Miss Mabel Vernon of Nevada, Miss Lucy Burns of New York, Miss Gladys Greiner of Baltimore, Miss Katherine Morey of Boston, Miss Elizabeth Stuyvesant of Cincinnati, Miss Lavinia Dock of Fayetteville, Pennsylvania, Miss Berta Crone of San Francisco, California, Miss Pauline Clarke of New York, Miss Virginia Arnold of North Carolina, Miss Maud Jamison of Norfolk, Virginia, Mrs. Townsend Scott of Maryland and Mrs. Annie Arniel of Delaware.

On the following day, Tuesday, June 26, nine women were arrested in two groups each carrying the same familiar banners. In addition to those previously arrested were Miss Vivian Pierce of California and Miss Hazel Hunkins of Montana. The women carried the tall standards flying purple, white and gold pennants. The vivid flags made a sharp note of color on Madison Place, riveting instant attention, and many men and women came running to watch the little group start down the street. Though they gave no indication of their destination the women were overpowered by the police before walking half a block. The nine last arrested were ordered to appear for trial in the District Police Court Wednesday, June 27. This will be the first time in the history of this country when American suffragists have been placed on trial for carrying banners for propaganda purposes. They will not be charged with picketing, which is a right of citizens in the District of Columbia,—but under a blanket misdemeanor charge which accuses them of obstructing traffic. The section reads:—

SECTION 5—It shall not be lawful for any person or persons within the District of Columbia to congregate and assemble in any street, avenue, alley, road or highway, or in or around any public building or enclosure or any park or residence, or at the entrance of any private building or enclosure, and engage in loud and boisterous talking or other disorderly conduct, or to insult or make rude or obscene gestures or comments or observations on persons passing, or in their hearing, or to crowd, obstruct or incommode the free use of any such street.

Under this act thirteen law-abiding American women are to be tried in free America.

Comments

The Russian Banner

I REJOICE with all my soul in the splendid Russian banner, and have just sent you money to pay for those torn down. Would that I had been there to see dear Lucy Burns and Mrs. Lewis. All honor to them. It was just the right pressure to put on Congress and at just the right moment."—*Elizabeth S. Rogers, New York, Chairman of the National Advisory Council of the Woman's Party.*

A Telegram to President Wilson

THOUGHTFUL women in the West urge that only immediate passage of Susan B. Anthony amendment as a war measure will stay agitation for political freedom for women. Will you not use your great power to range the United States with our allies on the side of triumphant democracy? Will you not also defend the brave sentinels of the National Woman's Party who are only defending the democratic ideal you have so often and so well expressed?"—*Caroline E. Spencer, State Secretary of the Colorado Branch of the National Woman's Party.*

From New York

I AM intensely interested and sympathetic. Bully for you!—*Mrs. Marie Jenney Howe, Chairman of the New York Committee, National Woman's Party.*

Advocates of Justice

A CAREFUL study of Mr. Root's statement to the Russian people would indicate, I think, one of three things—that he entirely overlooked women when he claimed that the United States has equal suffrage, that he does not think women are people, or that he meant wilfully to deceive."

Surely none of these interpretations of his words would seem to qualify him to be the apostle of democracy.

As spirited advocates of justice to women and of the need to establish a true democracy here and now, Mrs. Lewis and Miss Burns have evidently thought that the presence of the distinguished Russian visitors to America opened the way to emphasize their beliefs. My confidence in Miss Paul's leadership and in the judgment and good sense of Mrs. Lewis and Miss Burns makes me sure that they were entirely within their rights when they made this dramatic appeal. I admire their courage and hope that their fearless stand for justice may accomplish all that they expect of it."—*Caroline Katzenstein of Philadelphia, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Branch, Woman's Party.*

A Heroic Stand

ADMIRING congratulations to you and all brave soldiers in our cause for your heroic stand. You are advertising to the whole world the fact that this country is neither an industrial nor a political democracy. Your tactics magnificent. With my whole heart I wish I were there to help."—*Sara Bard Field, of California.*

The Sting of Home Truth

THE women are practically being conscripted; they are asked to conserve food, to contribute money, to give their sons and their husbands—all in the name of democracy, yet the right of self-government is being denied them by the very men who are asking this.

"The sharp sting of the legend on the banner lay in its truth, and it was because the men in their own consciences knew that it was true that they were stirred to such anger against the women who reminded them of the weak spot in the democracy of this country."—*Mrs. W. D. Ascough, Chairman of the Connecticut Branch of Woman's Party, in the Hartford Evening Post.*

To the Philadelphia North American

THE usual shock of surprise over the latest demonstration of the National Woman's Party and the chorus of declarations that "suffrage is put back five or ten or an indefinite number of years" will soon pass. We may now stop explaining that we disapprove of the method of delivery in order to remember with Doctor Shaw and Mrs. Catt and everybody except the anti-suffragists, that we, on the whole, agree with the substance of the message sent by the simple courage of Mrs. Lawrence Lewis and Miss Lucy Burns into every home in America and as far as Russian and Great Britain. Talk of "treason" applied to two women who have devoted themselves year after year to the cause of democracy within the nation, seems futile to us who have not faced such accusations, but can honor the women who really believe as we do that to make the world safe for democracy we must make democracy safe in the United States.—*Mary H. Ingham, of the National Advisory Council.*

From a Woman Voter

WE glory in the splendid courage of the pickets. They are true patriots and we shall win the fight soon I truly believe.—*Mrs. Lillian H. Kerr, Legislative Chairman of the Colorado Branch, National Woman's Party.*

Universal, Equal, Direct and Secret Suffrage

I SUGGEST a new banner—"We demand the 'Universal, equal, direct and secret suffrage' which Envoy Root told Russia we have in America."

If members of Congress can demand freedom for Ireland in return for hearty support of the war, why cannot the National Woman's Party demand freedom for America? More power to your arm.

If we want Russia's aid we should be honest in asking for it. She has universal, direct, equal and secret suffrage. We have not. If we think our limited suffrage better, let Root say so. Honest criticism based on public facts is a legitimate right of this democracy. Congratulations to all.—*Helena Hill Weed, Connecticut.*

From a Russian

I JUST read in the New York *Times* about the "deplorable incident" at the White House.

From all my heart and soul I am proud of the courage of American women who so boldly defend real liberty and democracy. I pray all good forces in the world to give you the courage to stay unshaken, find in high ideals unlimited source of joy, helping you not to fall down spiritually.

I am proud of Miss Burns and Mrs. Lewis who stood so courageously despite the angry crowd.

In Russia a different kind of oppressors did the very same things the American police do now. Yet a real liberty was won at last, and there are not forces on earth which could deprive humanity of it.

With deepest respect and admiration.—*N. A. Nessaragoff, Junior Inspector Russian Artillery Commission.*

From Massachusetts Socialists

THE Socialist Party of Massachusetts, in convention assembled, congratulates you on your stand for democracy at home. We agree with you that until the women of the United States are given the ballot we cannot claim to be a real democracy. May you gather strength. Fraternal greetings.—*Charles E. Fenner, Chairman, Leo Mellzer, Secretary.*

From a Progressive Leader

ALLOW me to congratulate you upon the courage with which your pickets are standing up for their principles. Our representations to Russia that we are a democracy are certainly erroneous in fact if not in theory. We are today in far more danger from within than from without, just because we have lamentably failed in this respect."—*J. A. H. Hopkins, of New Jersey.*

From a Radical

MAGNIFICENT. Perfect from every point of view. Accept our warmest admiration. —*Max Eastman, Editor of the "Masses."*

Comments of the Press

Not a Difficult Question

RATHER than suffering any pangs in its delicate sense of etiquette, the country doubtless feels most injured in its sense of the practical when it reads of suffrage "riots" in Washington. Why should a group of women carry a banner bearing a not very comfortable inscription? When warned of arrest if they persist, why should they blossom forth with another banner and tempt the police?

But, on the whole, the fair American citizen will admit, on second thought, that strange procedure is necessary to meet strange situations. The suffragist had long had an eye on 1917 as the year when the federal amendment should pass, enfranchising the women of the United States. When the war cloud arose they were more than ever convinced of the justice of an early enactment of their amendment. For were not women bearing their share of the war? And was not England turning voluntarily to suffrage? But they found barriers of politics. Congress wanted to "play" the suffrage amendment for all it was worth politically, and the President, while admitting his belief that nation-wide suffrage was good, preferred to leave the question to Congress—although disposed to lead the Congress in almost every other direction of government.

The women were being sidetracked. They needed to get back into public and Congressional consideration. Their only means was to attract attention. Not having any powerful and costly lobby, like the food interests and the cotton interests and the money interests, they were obliged to labor on a small scale. Their voices being drowned out, they found it necessary to appeal to the eye. So they came forth with banners asking whether, in a war for democracy, there shouldn't be complete democracy at home. It wasn't such a very difficult question, either.

By permitting destruction of the suffrage advertising campaign, and thus confessing that the suffrage question gets under the governmental skin, Washington has attracted sudden and not very flattering attention to its contempt for the women's issue.—*Boston, Mass., Journal, June* 25.

Pagan Persecution, Early and Modern

THERE is a reminiscent flavor of Rome in the days when the early Christians were the object of personal violences and pagan persecution in this news paragraph from *The Evening Journal* of yesterday, under a Washington date line:

"Miss Hazel Hunkins, one of the pickets, climbed upon the palings of the White House fence, holding her flag aloft in a vain endeavor to save it. Mrs. Richardson climbed up after her, scratching and clawing, and after a bitter struggle wrenched the banner away and tossed it to the howling crowd."

Thumbs down, by the populace, at the baiting of the Christians, caused their poor mutilated bodies to be tossed to the wild animals that roared in waiting. The mob leader who climbed the White House fence in the second day demonstrations is described as a "medium large woman with fiery red hair." A Nero in petticoats, a typical virago. The crowd hooted and yelled its approval of the triumph of mobocracy over the "silent protestants" as the captured banner was tossed to the multitude to rend. Every man who took part in that unseemly exhibit ought to be ashamed of himself. He has what is withheld from the women by arbitrary power, and because they essay to remind the President and Congress of what is a manifest injustice, as well as a rank inconsistency, they are persecuted. In a way, these suffrage baiters are fully as intolerant as their predecessor pagans of the first three centuries of the Christian era, who, under Nero, Trajan, Maximinus, Decius and Diocletian, relentlessly persecuted the Christian worshippers. But they only succeeded in making martyrs, and, as we all know, the "blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church."

So it may follow, will follow, the ravaged banners, rended by Washington's pagan mob, shall serve to arouse the nation to a realization of its incongruous attitude toward its own women, while praising England and Russia for the steps those countries are taking to accord equal justice to both sexes. To interrupt the President in the midst of a speech by unrolling a banner is in execrable taste and does not help the cause of equal suffrage, but retards it, in our judgment. The picketing, however, has hurt no one; it has been, as stated, a silent protest. Still, we do not admire it. But we can understand its raison d'etre, and even sympathize with the women who "spell" one another weary days in succession. They have a just grievance against the dilatory government, and, perhaps—we have our doubts—their "reminder" may hasten action by Congress. For the mob that attacked them—the lions!—*Richmond, Va., Evening Journal,* June 22.

The Amendment

THE women of Great Britain are to be given suffrage rights immediately following the war, when a general parliamentary readjustment has been provided for. Woman's suffrage is coming to this country by federal constitutional amendment about the same time. It cannot longer be delayed.—*Denver, Col., Rocky Mountain News, June* 21.

Telling the Truth

TELLING the truth is no longer a virtue in militarized America. The citizen who persists in living up to the ethics of George Washington, that he has been taught to emulate in childhood, treads upon dangerous ground and is likely to be branded as a traitor.

The National Woman's Party, the militant wing of the American suffrage movement, joined the traitor class last Wednesday by telling the truth about American democracy to the Russian mission as this body was about to visit the President. This truth, as conveyed to the Russians, was inscribed upon a banner and read:

"President Wilson and Envoy Root are deceiving Russia. They say: 'We are a democracy. Help us win a world war so that democracies may survive. We, the women of America, tell you that America is not a democracy. Twenty million American women are denied the right to vote. President Wilson is the chief opponent of national enfranchisement. Help us make this nation really free. Tell our government that it must liberate its people before it can claim free Russia as an ally."

To this truth the suffragists might have added others. They might have added, for example, that this government, which has entered a world war for democracy, is suppressing the fundamental rights of democracy at home by interfering with free speech and free assembly and by persecuting those Americans who raise their voices against tyranny and oppression. But, then, the National Woman's Party is not quite as traitorous as all that; moreover, one truth at a time is enough for the average, unthinking citizen, as the mobbing of the women and the tearing to tatters of their banner clearly showed.—*The New York Call, June* 25.

A National Question

BANNERS displayed in front of the White House should at least be submitted to the bureau of information for censorship.—*Washington, D. C., Star, June* 22.

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